-7-

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 27, 2006 and a telephone interview scheduled with the examiner and her primary examiner on July 24, 2006. The examiners are thanked for their efforts in discussing this case.

During the interview, the applicant's representative pointed to FIG. 7 and described step-by-step how a user would enter text (character-by-character) using several keys indicating whether the desired character was alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer-selected character or whether the computer-selected character should be retained because it matched the user's desired character. The applicant's representative discussed the King reference briefly arguing that the King reference includes text input using a reduced keyboard but that the present inventions does not include ambiguous input using a reduced keyboard. The applicant's representative instead pointed to the arrow keys illustrated at the bottom of FIG. 7 as an embodiment of the user's input. At the conclusion of the interview, the examiners asked whether a "working demo" was available to help the examiners understand the inventions better. The applicant's attorney stated that she would contact the inventor to see if such a working demo was available. The inventor has replied in an email that a prototype was available. In the very near future, the applicant's representative plans to contact the inventor and examiners to work out how and in what form this prototype can be made available to the examiners.

In the Office Action, claims 1-11 and 18-31 were pending of which all pending claims were rejected. The drawings filed on or around March 30, 2001 were accepted.

The Office Action reports that the previous rejection of claims 1-5, 8-10, and 18-31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over King (U.S. Patent No. 5,953,541) had been withdrawn based on amendment and newly found prior act. Further,

-8-

the Office Action states that the previous rejection of claims 6-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on the combination of King and Connolly (U.S. Patent No. 6,005,495) had also been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment and newly found prior art.

The Office Action next reports that claims 1-5, 8-10, and 18-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over King (as referenced above) in view of Robinson (U.S. Patent No. 6,801,190.

Claim 1 recites a method of providing a user-desired word into a computer, the method comprising the steps of: (a) having the computer select a character in an alphabetical range; (b) having the computer select a word as a function of the selected character, the selected word having a character sequence; (c) presenting the word to the user; (d) receiving an indication from the user indicating whether a user-desired character of the desired word is alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer-selected character or whether the computer-selected character matches the user-desired character; and (e) adjusting the range of characters or retaining the computer-selected character based on the user's indication.

Thus, in the present inventions in accordance with claim 1 and FIG. 7, a computer selects a character in an alphabetical range such as "s" and then selects a word as a function of "s" such as "said". The word "said" is then presented to the user. The user then indicates whether the user's desired character precedes or succeeds the computer-selected character "s" or whether the user-desired character matches the computer-selected character (i.e. the user desires to input "s"). In the example illustrated in FIG. 7, the user-desired character is "c" which precedes the computer-selected "s". Thus, the user presses the <up> key to indicate the user-desired character precedes the computer-selected "s". In this case the computer adjusts the range of characters to "a" to "o", and selects another character "c".

-9-

When there is a match (i.e. the user desires a "c"), the user presses the <right> key to retain the character "c" and move the cursor to the next character.

Importantly, in the present inventions, the user reacts to characters and words automatically selected by the computer and presented to the user. Further, as discussed in the interview, the present method of entering text occurs character-by-character rather than word-by-word. Thus, in the present inventions the user's indication is provided in response to each computer-selected character presented to the user.

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of King and Robinson do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claim 1. It is believed that King discloses a system for disambiguating ambiguous and unambiguous input text received from a user. Using the King system, a user decides whether to input input text ambiguously or unambiguously. To ambiguously input text, a user inputs text using a reduced keyboard where each key indicates more than one letter and/or digit. The King system considers whether this ambiguous key input is an entire word or only a word stem or part of a word. A user can also unambiguously input text by pressing in a particular location (e.g. right side, center, or left side) of a key so, for example, the user can input an "a" by pressing on the left side of the <ABC> key.

Illustratively, in FIG. 1A of King, reference items 78, 79, and 80 represent words "age," "aid," and "bid," which are words corresponding to ambiguous key input where the <ABC>, <GHI>, and <DEF> keys are activated in sequence. The words "age," "aid," and "bid," are selected based on probability. Further, reference items 81 and 82 representing "che" and "ahe" are word stems or parts of words associated with the same key input. Thus, it is believed that King system considers whether the user has input only the beginning part of a word and updates reference items 81 and 82 based on further key input. Reference item 84 corresponds

-10-

with the same key input but now the key input indicates a sequence of <u>digits</u> rather than characters. Finally, reference item 83 or "bhe" can correspond to unambiguous input where the key is physically activated in a certain area of the keys, e.g. the center of the key.

The Office Action states that King discloses a method of providing a user-desired word into a computer including having a computer select a word as a function of a selected character, the selected word having a character sequence; receiving an indication from a user; and adjusting the range of characters or retaining the selected character based on the user's indication.

However, claim 1 recites the feature of "receiving an indication from the user <u>indicating whether a user-desired character of the desired word is alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer-selected character</u> or whether the computer-selected character matches the user-desired character". In contrast, it is submitted that the user indication in King only indicates which text input corresponding with reference numbers 78 to 83 described above is desired. It is thus respectfully submitted that the user indication as recited in claim 1 is patentably distinct from the user indication of King.

The Office Action later admits that King does not expressly disclose that the user indication indicates whether a user-desired character of the desired word is alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer selected character or whether it matches the computer selected character. The Office Action then states that Robinson disclose that the computer selects a character as a default value and that Robinson further discloses indicating whether the character precedes or succeds or matches a user-desired character.

Robinson discloses a keyboard system that automatically corrects inaccuracies in user keystroke entries. The Office Action refers to Col. 13, lines 52-55 which describes advantages of the

-11-

Robinson system and provides in part, "One is that the inventive system is able to utilize information regarding both <u>preceding and succeeding keystrokes</u> in determining the intended character for each keystroke, together with the length of the word,..." [emphasis added] Thus, it is believed that the feature of claim 1 of "receiving an indication from the user indicating whether a user-desired character of the desired word is alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer-selected character or whether the computer-selected character matches the user-desired character" is simply not disclosed in Robinson. The cited section of Robinson is related to preceding and succeeding <u>keystrokes</u> and thus has nothing to do with whether the desired character is alphabetically preceding or succeeding the computer-selected character as recited in claim 1.

     In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over the cited combination. Claims 2-11 and 23-24 depend on claim 1 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-11 and 23-24 are respectfully requested.

     Claim 18 recites a computing device comprising an input device; an output device; memory storing a lexicon; a processor accessing the memory; and a module including instructions executable by the processor to perform the steps of: <u>selecting a character in a range of characters arranged in alphabetical order</u>; <u>selecting a word from the lexicon as a function of the selected character</u>, the word having a character sequence; presenting the word to the user through the output device; and <u>receiving an indication in response to the presented word from the user</u> through the input device pertaining to the selected character to indicate whether the selected character <u>matches or fails to match a user-desired character</u>.

     The remarks relating to claim 1 are herein incorporated by reference. The user indication of claim 18 indicates that the

-12-

selected character matches or does not match the user-desired character. However, claim 18 does not specify that the desired character is alphabetically preceeding or suceeding the computer selected character as in claim 1. Nonetheless, it is believed that the combination of King and Robinson does not teach or suggest all the features of claim 18. Thus, claim 18 is believed to be patentable over the cited art. Claims 19-22 and 25-26 depend on claim 18 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 19-22 and 25-26 are respectfully requested.

Finally, claim 27 recites a computer readable medium including computer-executable instructions to perform the steps of: (a) <u>selecting a character in an alphabetical range of</u> characters; (b) <u>selecting a word based on the selected character;</u> (c) rendering the selected word, the word having a character sequence; (b) receiving an indication from a user interface in response to the selected word, <u>the indication indicating whether a</u> <u>user-desired character is alphabetically preceding or succeeding</u> <u>the selected character or whether the computer-selected character</u> <u>matches the user-desired character;</u> and (e) <u>adjusting the range of</u> <u>characters or retaining the selected character based on the user's</u> <u>indication</u>. [emphasis added]

Claim 27 has been amended in accordance with claim 1. Remarks relating to claim 27 are herein incorporated by reference. Thus, it is believed that claim 27 is patentable over the cited art. Claims 28-31 depend on claim 27 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 27-31 are respectfully requested.
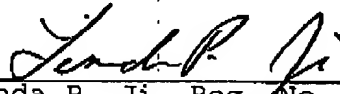
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-13-

    The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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